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Our File No. 9281-4746
Client Reference No. N US03001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Naoya Hasegawa et al.)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
Filing Date: Herewith)
For: Spin Valve Magnetoresistive Element)
Having Pinned Magnetic Layer)
Composed of Epitaxial Laminated Film)
Having Magnetic Sublayers And)
Nonmagnetic Interlayer)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references A1 – A5 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-94141 discloses a matched layer adjacent to a pin layer (epitaxial growth).

Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2000-20926, 2000-113418 and 11-86229 disclose art of a self-pin structure.

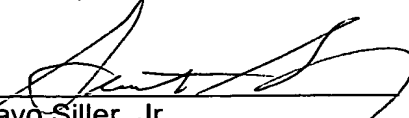
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally

determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	To be Assigned	9281-4746
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	Herewith.	
APPLICANT(S): Naoya Hasegawa et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	6,295,187	09/2001	Mustafa Pinarbasi		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
	A2	2002-94141	03/2002	Japan		X	
	A3	2000-20926	01/2000	Japan		X	
	A4	2000-113418	04/2000	Japan		X	
	A5	11-86229	03/1999	Japan		X	

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
 Rev. Oct. 97